



Atty. Docket No.: 4231/2032

PATENT

IN THE UNITED STATES PATENT AND TRADEMARK OFFICE

Application of: Liew et al.  
Serial No.: 10/649,959  
Filed: August 26, 2003  
Entitled: Beta-2 Microglobulin (B2M) and  
B2M Related Gene Products for the  
Regulation of Osteoarthritis  
Pathogenesis and Chondrocyte  
Proliferation

Examiner: Danton, M.J.S.

Group Art Unit: 1634

Conf. No. 7379

**CERTIFICATE OF MAILING UNDER 37 C.F.R. § 1.8a**

I hereby certify that this correspondence (and any paper or fee referred to as being enclosed) is being deposited with the United States Post Office as First Class Mail on the date indicated below in an envelope addressed to Mail Stop Amendment, Commissioner for Patents, P.O. Box 1450, Alexandria, VA 22313-1450.

Kathleen Williams

Name of Person Mailing Paper

Signature of Person Mailing Paper

**Mail Stop Amendment  
Commissioner for Patents  
P.O. Box 1450  
Alexandria, VA 22313-1450**

**INFORMATION DISCLOSURE STATEMENT  
UNDER 37 CFR §§ 1.56, 1.97 AND 1.98**

Dear Sir:

In accordance with the duty of disclosure under 37 CFR § 1.56, Applicant submits this Information Disclosure Statement pursuant to 37 CFR §§ 1.97 and 1.98 in the above-identified application for consideration by the Patent Office.

A listing of the cited documents, as well as, for the Examiner's convenience, copies of all foreign patent documents and non-patent literature are enclosed. This application was filed after June 30, 2003, and copies of U.S. patents and U.S. patent applications are not required and are not enclosed.

Pursuant to CFR § 1.97(e)(1), each item contained in the Information Disclosure Statement was first cited in a communication from a foreign patent office in a counterpart foreign application or International application. Because this statement is being filed within three months of receipt of the Search Report, no fee is believed to be due. A copy of the Search Report is included and cited on the enclosed PTO-1449.

Applicant does not intend to represent that any of the documents submitted herein are material prior art to this invention or that the list represents an exhaustive search of documents related to this invention.

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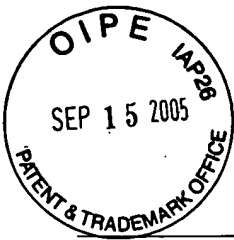
Applicant respectfully requests that the documents submitted herein be considered and made of record in this application.

Respectfully submitted,

Date: \_\_\_\_\_

9/13/01

\_\_\_\_\_  
Name: Kathleen Williams  
Registration No.: 34,380  
Customer No.: 29933  
Palmer & Dodge LLP  
111 Huntington Avenue  
Boston, MA 02199-7613  
Tel: 617-239-0100



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P.O. Box 1450  
Alexandria, VA 22313-1450**

**TRANSMITTAL LETTER**

Enclosed for filing in the above-identified patent application, please find the following documents:

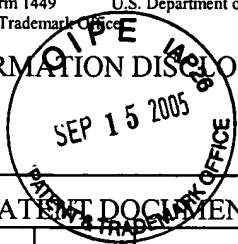
1. Information Disclosure Statement;
2. Form PTO-1449;
3. Copies of Cited References; and
4. Return Post Card.

The Commissioner for Patents is hereby authorized to charge any fees to Deposit Account No. 16-0085, Reference 4231/2032. A duplicate of this transmittal letter is enclosed for this purpose.

Date: 9/13/05

Respectfully submitted,

Kathleen M. Williams  
Registration No.: 34,380  
Customer NoP 29933  
Palmer & Dodge LLP  
111 Huntington Avenue  
Boston, MA 02199-7513  
Tel: 617-239-0100

USPTO Form 1449 U.S. Department of Commerce Patent and Trademark Office <b>INFORMATION DISCLOSURE STATEMENT</b>				Attorney Docket No. 4231/2032		Serial No. 10/649,959		
				Applicant(s): Liew et al.				
				Filing Date: Aug. 26, 2003		Group: 1634		
<b>U.S. PATENT DOCUMENTS</b>								
Examiner Initial		Patent No.	Date	Name	Class	Subclass	Filing Date (if appropriate)	
		6,331,396B1	Dec. 18, 2001	Silverman et al.				
		6,320,022B1	Nov. 20, 2001	Cutitia et al.				
		6,444,876B1	Sept. 3, 2002	Lassner et al.				
		2001-0031757	Oct. 18, 2001	Schafer et al.				
<b>FOREIGN PATENT DOCUMENTS</b>								
Examiner Initial		Document No.	Publication Date	Country	Class	Subclass	Translation	
							YES	NO
<b>OTHER DOCUMENTS (including Author, Title, Date, Pertinent Pages, etc.)</b>								
		Sakashita et al. (Jan. 2000) American Journal of Pathology, 156(1):227-236						
		Naot et al. (2001) Endocrinology, 142(6):1849-1857						
		Fonesca et al. (2000) British Journal of Hematology, 109:24-29						
		Connor, J.R. (2001) Osteoarthritis and Cartilage, 9:727-737						
		Copy of PCT International Search Report (PCT/US03/26730)						
<b>EXAMINER</b>						<b>DATE CONSIDERED</b>		
*EXAMINER: Initial if reference considered, whether or not citation is in conformance with MPEP 609. Draw line through citation if not in conformance and not considered. Include copy of this form with next communication to Applicant.								
**Copies of references not provided at the time of this submission.								